

REFERENCES AND REVIEWS

EVALUATION OF A SPECIFIC ANTISERUM FOR SERUM BETA LIPOPROTEIN ESTIMATIONS—L. M. Bergquist, V. P. Carroll, Jr., and R. L. Searcy. *Lancet*—Vol. 1:537 (March 11) 1961.

A commercially available specific antiserum provides efficient means for rapid and reproducible precipitation of human serum beta lipoproteins. Antiserum is produced by the immunization of goats with ultracentrifugally isolated human serum lipoproteins (density, 1.063 gm/ml). On glass slides, 0.06 ml. of serum are mixed with 0.16 ml. of antiserum. Serum-antiserum precipitates are measured in millimeters after centrifugal sedimentation in standardized capillary tubes. Completeness of precipitation was shown by comparing electrophoretic patterns before and after immunoprecipitation of serum. Alimentary lipemia was shown to have little effect on lipoprotein precipitate values. Low-density lipoprotein estimations compared well with 145 electrophoretic determinations of beta lipoprotein cholesterol. The immunochemical method may be valuable in detecting increased low-density lipoprotein levels in studies of large population groups.

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DISINFECTION OF BEDPANS—E. M. Darmady, K. E. A. Hughes, J. D. Jones, D. Prince, and P. Verdon. *J. Clin. Path.*—Vol. 14:66 (Jan.) 1961.

After it had been demonstrated that five different methods of cleansing bedpans were unsatisfactory, it occurred to the authors that a standard dish-washing machine could be adapted for the cleansing of bedpans. The following pro-

cedure was introduced. The solids were discharged into an open sluice or preferably into a sluicing machine fitted with a lavatory flush. Four pans are then transferred to a dish-washing machine, and the automatic cycle is switched on. Since the cycle lasts nine minutes, the nurse is available for other duties. Visual and bacteriologic examinations have shown that the machine produces superior and more reliable results than do other methods of cleansing bedpans.

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VITAMIN K-S (II) IN LIVER DISEASE—J. C. Hoak and J. R. Carter. *Arch. Int. Med.*—Vol. 107:715 (May) 1961.

Patients with severe liver disease and defective accelerator activity were given a new drug, vitamin K-S (II) [S-(2-methyl-1, 4-naphthoquinonoyl-3)- β mercaptopropionic acid]. Heretofore, there has been little to offer the patient with acquired Factors V and VII deficiencies except transfusion of blood or plasma. In 21 of 33 patients, this drug produced a good or excellent response as regards improvement of accelerator activity. Depressed plasma prothrombin levels did not improve. Bleeding stopped in all patients who had no other cause for bleeding than the coagulation defect. The drug was effective when given orally or intravenously. No toxic effects were noted.

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EXPERIMENTAL HYPERTENSION AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS—R. F. Rosenthal and R. M. O'Neal. *Arch. Path.*—Vol. 71:554 (May) 1961.

Previous studies have shown that evidence of pulmonary hypertension may be produced easily in experimental animals by intravenous embolization of the pulmonary circuit with a suspension of inert plastic beads. Likewise, cholesterol-induced atherosclerosis in the rabbit has been shown to affect the pulmonary vasculature as well as the aorta. In

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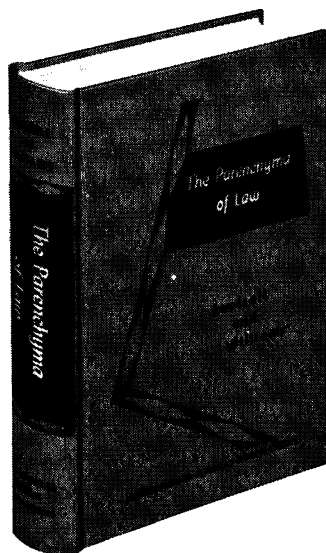
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the present study, 32 rabbits were placed on a high cholesterol diet. Half of these animals were then given intravenous plastic bead suspensions and developed right ventricular hypertrophy. It was found that this latter group of animals developed a significantly greater degree of pulmonary atherosclerosis than did the control group which did not receive beads. Results of this study furnish further evidence for the role of hypertension per se as a factor in the development of experimental cholesterol atherosclerosis.

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BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION—E. Storti. *Minerva Med.* Vol. 52:295 (Jan. 31) 1961.

Bone marrow was withdrawn from each of 26 patients with different types of neoplasia, and it was stored at -79°C . (-112°F .) to be reimplanted at the end of massive radiation and chemotherapy which, with few exceptions, coincided with the onset of severe leukopenia and thrombopenia. Patients whose blood formula had dropped to 400 to 500 leukocytes and 10,000 platelets per cubic millimeter received autologous bone marrow transplantation; 25 days later they had recovered from the medullary lesions caused by radiation. But 10 patients who were in better condition and did not receive the transplantation had not returned to normal values three months after terminating radiotherapy. Bone marrow transplantation was also applied to six patients who had incipient neoplasias and were receiving massive radiation combined with intensive chemotherapy. The results will be reported after enough time has elapsed for evaluation. Another indication for this autologous transplantation is medullary lesion caused by accidental radiation, as it was applied in the treatment of the six Yugoslavian scientists who received massive radiation from an atomic reactor in 1958, as reported by Mathé and coworkers.

DOUBLE BLIND TRIAL TO INVESTIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THORAZINE (CHLORPROMAZINE), COMPazine (PROCHLORPERAZINE), AND STELAZINE (TRIFLUOPERAZINE) IN PARANOID SCHIZOPHRENIA—I. C. Wilson, J. McKay, and M. G. San-difer Jr. *J. Ment. Sci.*—Vol. 107:90 (Jan.) 1961.

The phenothiazines are becoming more potent and they appear to become much more specific in alleviating the primary thought, emotional, and behavioral disorders in schizophrenia. On the assumption that these drugs had a differential therapeutic effect in the alleviation of schizophrenic symptoms, a double-blind trial was set up in eight paranoid schizophrenics, who were selected mostly from intermediate stay patients, that is, those who had failed to respond satisfactorily to the initial three months' intensive therapy. Chlorpromazine, prochlorperazine, trifluoperazine and an inert placebo were used in a latin square design. None of the drugs had an appreciably different effect on psychotic ideation, but prochlorperazine and trifluoperazine were definitely superior in the management of overall psychopathology as measured by the rating scales devised by Malamud and Sands in 1947.

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BILE DUCT RECONSTRUCTION WITH GASTRIC PEDICLE TUBE—H. J. Heimlich and G. F. Gitlitz. *Arch. Surg.*—Vol. 82:755 (May) 1961.

In this new operation for reconstructing obstructed bile ducts, a pedicle flap is created from the greater curvature of the stomach and made into a tube which remains attached at the pyloric end of the antrum. The proximal end of this gastric tube is anastomosed to the bile duct above the obstruction, permitting bile to flow into the stomach. The right gastroepiploic vessels accompany this tube, nourishing it; therefore, the tube can be made any reasonable

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